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PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU ANNOUNCES DEADLINE FOR COMMENT ON FIRSTNET EX PARTE SUBMISSIONS PROPOSING INTEROPERABILITY CRITERIA FOR STATE OPT-OUT REQUESTS FROM THE FIRSTNET RADIO ACCESS NETWORK

PS Docket No. 16-269

Comment Date: July 17, 2017

On June 22, 2017, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) adopted a Report and Order in this docket establishing Commission procedures for administering the state opt-out process as provided under the Public Safety Spectrum Act, as well as delineating the two-prong statutory standard by which the Commission will evaluate state alternative plans. The Report and Order further directed the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau (Bureau) to issue a Public Notice establishing an expedited comment period for public comment on *ex parte* filings submitted by the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). These *ex parte* filings propose criteria for the Commission's review of alternative state plans under the second prong of the statutory test relating to "interoperability with the nationwide public safety broadband network."

On June 28, 2017, the Bureau released the requisite Public Notice, which provided for comments to be filed ten days from publication of the Public Notice in the Federal Register.³ On July 7, 2017, the Public Notice was published the Federal Register.⁴ Therefore, comments responsive to the Public Notice are due on or before July 17, 2017. Complete comment filing instructions are set forth in the Public Notice.⁵

For further information, contact Roberto Mussenden, Attorney Advisor, Policy and Licensing Division, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, at (202) 418-1428 or Roberto.Mussenden@fcc.gov.

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¹ Procedures for Commission Review of State Opt-Out Requests from the FirstNet Radio Access Network, PS Docket No. 16-269, Report and Order, FCC 17-75 (June 22, 2017) (Report and Order).

² *Id.* at para, 64.

³ Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau Seeks Comment on FirstNet Ex Parte Submissions Proposing Interoperability Requirements For State Opt-Out Requests From The FirstNet Radio Access Network, PS Docket No. 16-269, Public Notice, DA 17-625 (PSHSB June 28, 2017) (Public Notice).

^{4 82} FR 31602

⁵ Public Notice at 2.